

U. S. Rubber Company Is Operating KOW

The Kankakee Unit of the Joliet Arsenal, known during World War II as the Kankakee Ordnance Works, is again producing military explosives.

Construction of the plant was started in 1939 and actual production was begun late in 1941. E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Co. was the first operating contractor. On April 1, 1944, the United States Rubber company was designated operating contractor and operated the plant until the end of the war. During World War II, Kankakee Ordnance Works produced more than 1.4 billion pounds of explosives.

AFTER WORLD WAR II, the plant was placed in standby condition. A portion of the plant was used in the manufacture of ammonium nitrate by the du Pont company for the government during the years of 1946 thru 1949. During the latter part of 1950 the Ordnance Corps requested the United States Rubber company to make a survey and to make an estimate covering the restoration of the plant to operation. Completion of the survey in turn led to final contracts, one with the Corps of Engineers for the physical restoration of the plant and equipment, and one with the Ordnance Corps for the manufacture of explosives.

Reactivation work was started effectively as of March of this year. In order to utilize the proficiency and experience of the construction industry, the Blaw-Knox Construction company and the Kelso-Burnett Electric company were engaged as sub-contractors to provide construction labor, and the Chemical Construction company was engaged to assist in the restoration of equipment of their manufacture.

THIS PLANT is now operated

by the Naugatuck Chemical division of the United States Rubber company. Naugatuck's familiarity with organic chemistry in the development of rubber, agricultural and other allied chemicals places the company in a favorable position to furnish experienced personnel for the chemical aspects of explosive manufacture.

Many of the employees under the present operation were former employees during World War II and their experience and training has been a factor in starting production activities with a minimum of delay. Actual production at the

plant was started during the summer.

J. E. Helquist, a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh with a mechanical engineer's degree, is the plant manager. He was employed as a field engineer for the Wallace & Tiernan Co. of Newark, N. J. from 1935 until 1942. In 1942, he was employed by the United States Rubber company. During the war, he was the assistant engineering superintendent at the Kankakee Ordnance Works, and prior to the reactivation of this plant, he was plant engineer of the company's marvinol plant

located at Painesville, O.

H. R. Gaetz, assistant plant manager and production superintendent, was formerly at the Charleston, W. Va., plant and previous to that was production superintendent at Kankakee Ordnance works. Other departmental superintendents under Helquist are Oscar Zellweger, control department, formerly control manager at the Borger, Tex., plant; B. C. Carlson, technical department, transferred from the Gilmer plant at Philadelphia and formerly in the technical department at the Kankakee Ord-

nance Works; J. F. Stephens, purchasing department, transferred from Port Neches, Tex., where he was the purchasing agent; L. A. Doherty, engineering department, transferred from the Naugatuck Synthetic plant where he was plant engineer; L. H. Corley, materials and traffic department, from Fort Wayne, Ind., where he was traffic manager and assistant materials superintendent; A. W. Conn, service department, formerly assistant industrial relations manager at the Providence, Rhode Island plant.

Branch 'Y' to Vote Jan. 10 on New Directors

The annual election of the board of managers of the Community Branch Young Men's Christian association will be held Thursday, Jan. 10, at the Branch "Y" office from 8 a. m. to 9 p. m.

The following are candidates for election to the three year terms to the board:

Mrs. Pearl Carson, Mrs. Catherine Clayton, Mrs. Sadie McCallum, John Clark, Charles Meads and Walter S. Saunders.

CANDIDATES for appointment to fill unexpired terms are John Townsend, for two-year term of James Saunders, and Mrs. Cora McElrath, for one-year term of Dr. Josephine McDonald.

Additional nominees will be placed upon the ballot to be mailed to the 345 voting members provided each is endorsed by at least 5 per cent of the voting membership in writing. Such names will

Peter McCarthy Submits Report

Supt. Peter H. McCarthy reported assistance to several hundred needy persons during December at the Morning Star Mission.

This is the 43rd year of the mission's operation on Collins street. The following is the breakdown of the report:

Conversions, 36; free meals, 567; free beds, 234; free clothing, 102; relief to families, 13; bus and rail fares paid, 55; 57 dozen free donuts to children.

He is posted in the office immediately upon being received.

FIVE PER CENT of the voting members, 17, is the minimum number required to make the election official.

No person is eligible for election unless his name has been submitted to, or has been nominated by, the nominating committee. Scoby Logue is chairman of the Branch "Y" board of managers.

Herbert Pinnick Succumbs at 73

Herbert D. Pinnick, 73, Braidwood, died at St. Joseph's hospital yesterday following a lingering illness.

Mr. Pinnick was born in Virginia and has lived in Braidwood since he was eight-years-old. He had been employed by the Joliet Arsenal up to the time of his illness. Prior to this, he worked at the coal mines and for the Leon paper company.

He is survived by his widow, Ida; four daughters, Mrs. Mayme McCaim, Mrs. Martha McNear, Mrs. Josephine Poston, of Lockport, and Mrs. Salina Turner, of Braidwood; and six sons, William, of Braidwood, Herbert, Jr., Theodore, Charles and Richard, of Lockport, and John, of Joliet.

The body was removed to the Patterson funeral home, Braidwood. Funeral arrangements have not been completed.

Garbage Pick-up Back to Normal By Thursday

City garbage removal, set back by snow in alleys, will be back on the regular schedule by Thursday, according to F. B. Streepy, who has the city garbage contract.

He said yesterday that garbage trucks would make every effort to pick up in alleys. If any alleys are still impassable, garbage left at street curbs will be removed, he added.

Five additional men and one new 20-yard capacity truck will be added to his force starting tomorrow, Streepy said.

Fire starting from a defective chimney caused small damage to the roof of a garage at the home of John Luscher, 1009 Cora street, yesterday. Being outside the city, a light tank truck was sent from the loop engine house to put out the blaze.